

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Trains, Air Service, and Consumers' Goods in Canton, Peiping, and Shanghai	DATE DISTR.	31 August 1955 25X1
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Trains

1. [] the number of trains running from Pukow to Tientsin was estimated to be not more than one train every 45 minutes. The trains were made up of 40 cars each. The average speed on the Pukow-Tientsin run was 43 kilometers an hour; Tientsin-Peiping, 51 kilometers an hour, including a one-to-two hours stop. The maximum average speed of all trains was 70 kilometers an hour. Two train ferries were available for the Nanking-Pukow transfer, but only one was in operation, and it apparently was sufficient to handle the traffic. 25X1
2. There was a train from Peiping into Mongolia approximately every 45 minutes. Trains were made up of 20 cars each. Sometimes two locomotives with one by four-coupled axles were added to a single locomotive with two by three-coupled axles. Some of the locomotives were war-time [] models. 25X1
3. Train schedules between Canton and Shench'uan were different from those indicated on the official timetable issued in Peiping. People in Peiping did not seem to be aware of this discrepancy.
4. Strengthening of railway embankments with stones in areas effected by the floods was in progress. In some places railway stations were under repair. No work on double tracks was seen.

Air Service

5. At a Peiping airport there were 12 transport planes, six military and six commercial. Most of the planes were Dakotas; the others were Curtis Commandos. One [] Dakota had Russian propellers. A Dakota made trips between Canton and Peiping. On this run a refueling stop was made at Kaifeng, and lunch was served at Wuhan. Cargo occupied five seat spaces on a 20-passenger Dakota. From the air some areas between Wuhan and Canton appeared to be flooded. No unused dry land areas were seen. New dikes were being built, and those damaged by the floods were under repair. 25X1

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Consumers' Goods

6. There appeared to be a sufficient quantity of textiles in Canton, Peiping, and Shanghai. The shops stocked gaily printed and woven fabrics; but people on the streets wore mainly blue, khaki, or grey clothing. Only a few persons wore ragged clothing.
7. State shops in Canton sold a choice of bedding and cushions, writing and drawing materials, typewriters and calculating machines, shoes, and sweets.
8. A recently-opened state arts and crafts shop in Peiping exhibited pottery goods expressing Chinese motifs and works of art, but other materials were junk. Much of the material on display was not for sale. Many of the shop's clients were Russians, except in the drawing materials sections.
9. The people appeared well fed.

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